

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District
 Council in the year ending
 31st December COSEFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

WEST SUFFOLK.

Public Health Offices,
 3, Watling Street,
 Bury St. Edmunds.

September 1950.

The Chairman and Members of the
 Rural District Council of Cosford.

My Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Herewith I beg to submit of the my fourteenth Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health, being that for the year ended 31st December, 1949, and acknowledge my indebtedness to Mr. Sims in its compilation.

I am, My Chairman, **MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT H. CLAYTON.

for the year

M.B., B.S., D.Hy., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Officer of the year 1949.

(a) Medical: One part-time Medical Officer of Health,

Robert H. Clayton, M.B., B.S., D.Hy.,
 D.P.H. (London). Cert. Hyg. (London),
 and Allied Subjects (London), appointed
 1st February, 1937.

This Officer does not engage in private practice but holds in addition the following appointments:- Medical Officer of Health Newmarket U.D.C.,
 Thetford U.D.C., Mildenhast R.D.C., and Mildenhast R.D.C.

(b) Sanitary: One Sanitary Inspector,

ROBERT H. CLAYTON, M.B., B.S., D.Hy., D.P.H. Other Foods

Certificates M.B., B.S.,
 Appointed 1st May, 1947.

Mr. Sims is also Surveyor to the Council.

One Additional Sanitary Inspector,

E. A. Parker, M.B.L.A., M.A. & Other Foods
 Certificates R.S.I., R. Inst. Hyg.
 Appointed 17th July, 1947.

OCEANOGRAPHIC DISTRICT COUNCIL.

WEST BURLINGTON.

R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1919.

ROBERT H. GLAYTON, M.D., D.S., D.V., D.P.H.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District of
Cosford in the County of West Suffolk for the year ending
31st December, 1949.

Public Health Offices,
8, Whiting Street,
Bury St. Edmunds.

September 1950.

To:-

The Chairman and Members of the
Rural District Council of Cosford.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Herewith I beg to submit for your favourable consideration
my fourteenth Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health, being that
for the year ended 31st December, 1949, and acknowledge my indebtedness
to Mr. Hine in its compilation.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT H. CLAYTON.

M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

(a) Medical. One part-time Medical Officer of Health,

Robert H. Clayton, M.B., B.S., B.Hy.,
D.P.H. (Durham). Cert. Mental Deficiency
and Allied Subjects (London), appointed
1st February, 1937.

This Officer does not engage in private practice but holds in addition
the following appointments:- Medical Officer of Health Newmarket U.D.C.,
Thingoe R.D.C., Thedwastre R.D.C., and Mildenhall R.D.C.

(b) Others. One Sanitary Inspector,

G. H. Hine, T.I.MUNE., M.S.I.A., Meat & Other Foods
Certificate R.S.I.
Appointed 1st May, 1947.

Mr. Hine is also Surveyor to the Council.

One Additional Sanitary Inspector,

E. A. Panks, M.S.I.A., Meat & Other Foods
Certificate R.S.I., M.Inst. Housing.
Appointed 17th July, 1947.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|--------|-------|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------|----------------|--------|-------|
| 1. <u>GENERAL STATISTICS.</u> | Area | .. | .. | .. | 48,530 acres. | | | | |
| Registrar General's estimate of the resident population | (1947) | (1948) | 1949. | (1947) | (1948) | 1949. | | | |
| | .. | .. | .. | .. | (9,121) | (9,364) | 9,410 | | |
| Number of inhabited houses at end of year according to Rate Book | .. | .. | .. | .. | (3,163) | (3,244) | 3,301 | | |
| Rateable Value | .. | .. | .. | .. | (£28,239) | (£28,471) | £30,534 | | |
| Sum represented by a Penny Rate | .. | .. | .. | .. | (£126) | (£129) | £161 | | |
| 2. <u>EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Live Births.</u> | <u>Total.</u> | | | <u>Male.</u> | | | <u>Female.</u> | | |
| | (1947) | (1948) | 1949. | (1947) | (1948) | 1949. | (1947) | (1948) | 1949. |
| Legitimate | (199) | (167) | 159 | (107) | (87) | 83 | (92) | (80) | 76 |
| Illegitimate | (11) | (11) | 7 | (7) | (8) | 4 | (4) | (3) | 3 |
| <u>Stillbirths.</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| Legitimate | (4) | (6) | 5 | (2) | (4) | 2 | (2) | (2) | 3 |
| Illegitimate | (1) | (Nil) | Nil | (Nil) | (Nil) | Nil | (1) | (Nil) | Nil |
| <u>Deaths.</u> | (120) | (136) | 138 | (61) | (65) | 72 | (59) | (71) | 66 |
| <u>Deaths under 1 year.</u> | (1) | (2) | 5 | (1) | (1) | 4 | (Nil) | (1) | 1 |
| <u>Birth Rate.</u> (Live births per 1000 civilian population). | <u>Cosford.</u> | | | <u>England & Wales.</u> | | | | | |
| | (1947) | (1948) | 1949. | (1947) | (1948) | 1949. | | | |
| | (23.0) | (19.0) | 17.6 | (20.5) | (17.9) | 16.7 | | | |
| <u>Stillbirth Rate per 1000 population).</u> | (0.55)(0.64)0.53 | | | (0.50)(0.42)0.39 | | | | | |
| <u>Stillbirth Rate per 1000 total (live and still)births.</u> | (23.3)(32.6)29.2 | | | (-) (-) - | | | | | |
| <u>Death Rate per 1000 resident population.</u> | (13.2)(14.7)14.7 | | | (12.0)(10.8)11.7 | | | | | |
| <u>Corrected Death Rate (Comparability Factor 0.74)</u> | | | | 10.9 | | | | | |
| <u>Death Rate of Infants under 1 year.</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| All infants per 1000 live births. | (4.8) (11.2)30.1 | | | (41) (34) 32 | | | | | |
| Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate births. | (5.0) (6.0) 31.4 | | | (-) (-) - | | | | | |
| Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate births. | (Nil) (90.9)Nil | | | (-) (-) - | | | | | |

No deaths from Maternal Causes (Headings 29 & 30), 20 deaths from Cancer, no deaths from Measles or Whooping Cough or from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) were recorded.

On page 3 is a table giving the causes and the number of deaths occurring at the various age groups. The totals correspond with the Registrar General's figures.

The deaths are classified under the Headings given in the New Abridged List of Causes, as used in England and Wales and Northern Ireland, as set out on Page XXXIX of the Manual of the International List of Causes of Deaths - 1938.

It will be noted that 49 Males and 50 Females were aged 65 or more before death. This represents 72% of the total number of deaths. Included in this number were 35 Octogenarians and 5 Nonagerarians. This high proportion of old persons, taken in conjunction with the Comparability Factor of 0.74 and the Corrected Death Rate of 10.9, is indicative not merely of a healthy area, but also, unfortunately, that the population has a high proportion of elderly persons.

Causes of Death.

Deaths at the Sub-joined ages of "RESIDENTS" whether occurring in or beyond the District.

| | Under 1 year. | | 1 & under 5. | | 5 & under 15. | | 15 & under 25. | | 25 & under 45. | | 45 & under 65. | | 65 & upwards. | | TOTAL Registrar Gen-eral's figures. | |
|---|---------------|----|--------------|----|---------------|----|----------------|----|----------------|----|----------------|----|---------------|----|-------------------------------------|----|
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| 6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system. | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | 2 | 1 |
| 7. Other forms of Tuberculosis. | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| 8. Syphillitic Diseases. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | - |
| 9. Influenza. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 11. Acute Poliomyelitis. | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| 13. Cancer of buccal cavity & oesophagus (M) Uterus (F) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | - |
| 14. Cancer of Stomach & duodenum. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 15. Cancer of Breast. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| 16. Cancer of all other sites. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 7 | 7 |
| 17. Diabetes. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| 18. Intracranial vascular lesions. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 7 |
| 19. Heart Diseases. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 7 | 4 | 20 | 18 | 28 | 22 |
| 20. Other Circulatory diseases. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| 22. Pneumonia. | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| 23. Other Respiratory Diseases. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| 24. Ulcer of Stomach or duodenum. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| 26. Appendicitis. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| 27. Other digestive diseases. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | 2 |
| 28. Nephritis. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| 31. Premature Birth. | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | - |
| 33. Suicide. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| 35. Other violent causes. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | 1 |
| 36. All other causes. | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 8 | 2 | 9 |
| Total: Males. | 4 | - | 1 | - | 1 | - | 1 | - | 1 | - | 15 | - | 49 | - | 72 | - |
| Females. | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | 13 | - | 50 | - | 66 |

The age and sex distribution of deaths is indicated in the table below.

| | | | | | | Male. | | Female. | | Total of Male and Female. | | |
|------------------|--|--|--|--|--|-------|------|---------|------|---------------------------|-------|---------------------------------|
| | | | | | | 1949 | 1948 | 1949 | 1948 | 1949 | 1948 | |
| Under 1 year | | | | | | 4 | (1) | 1 | (1) | 5 | (2) | |
| 1 year & 5 years | | | | | | 1 | (1) | Nil | (1) | 1 | (2) | |
| 5 years " | | | | | | 1 | (1) | 1 | (1) | 2 | (1) | |
| 15 " | | | | | | 1 | (1) | Nil | (1) | 1 | (1) | |
| 25 " | | | | | | 1 | (3) | 1 | (2) | 2 | (5) | |
| 45 " | | | | | | 15 | (14) | 13 | (12) | 28 | (26) | (73% in 1948) (72% in 1949). |
| 65 & over. | | | | | | 8 | (9) | 8 | (5) | 16 | (14) | |
| (65 " | | | | | | 8 | (12) | 12 | (12) | 20 | (24) | |
| (70 " | | | | | | 14 | (10) | 9 | (6) | 23 | (16) | |
| (75 " | | | | | | 8 | (4) | 13 | (16) | 21 | (20) | |
| (80 " | | | | | | 6 | (8) | 8 | (9) | 14 | (17) | |
| (85 " | | | | | | 5 | (2) | Nil | (5) | 5 | (7) | |
| (90 " | | | | | | Nil | (-) | Nil | (1) | Nil | (1) | |
| (95 " | | | | | | 72 | (65) | 20 | (71) | 138 | (136) | |

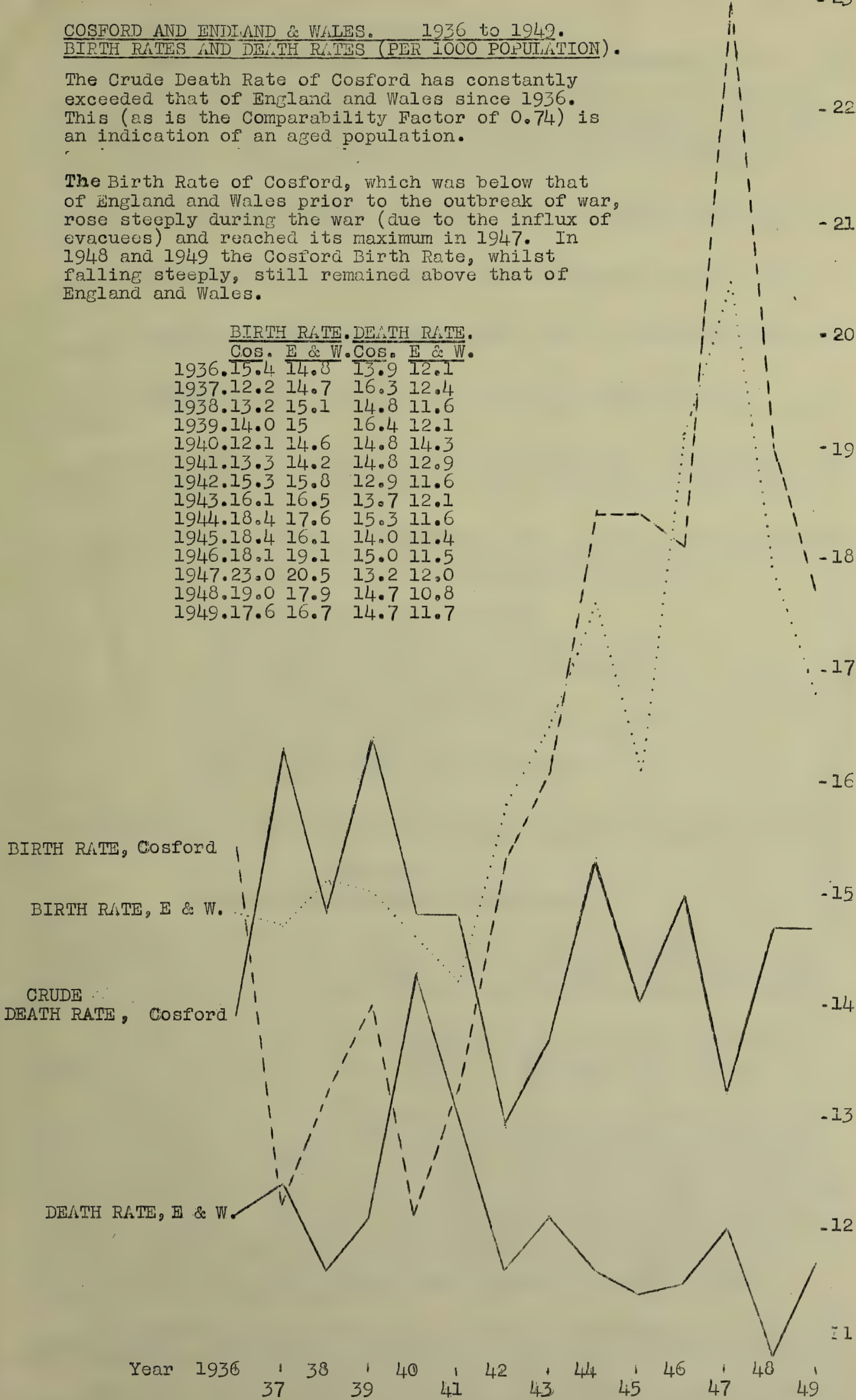
| | Rateable Value. | Penny Rate Product. | No. of inhabited houses. | Registrar-General's Estimate Population. | Total Deaths. | Deaths under One year. | | Births. | | Stillbirths. | |
|---|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------------|--|---------------|------------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| | | | | | | Legit-imate. | Illegit-imate. | Legit-imate. | Illegit-imate. | Legit-imate. | Illegit-imate. |
| 1936. | £23,210 | £105 | 2,707 | 9,091 | 126 | 4 | Nil | 131 | 9 | 3 | Nil |
| 1937. | £23,605 | £107 | 2,923 | 8,912 | 145 | 4 | Nil | 105 | 4 | 5 | 1 |
| 1938. | £24,701 | £112 | 2,942 | 8,941 | 132 | 4 | Nil | 114 | 4 | 5 | Nil |
| 1939. | £25,175 | £113 | 2,975 | 9,230 | 156 | 5 | Nil | 128 | 3 | 1 | Nil |
| 1940. | £25,480 | £116 | 3,107 | 9,956 | 147 | 6 | Nil | 125 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| 1941. | £25,423 | £116 | 3,102 | 10,790 | 160 | 5 | Nil | 158 | 2 | 6 | Nil |
| 1942. | £25,539 | £120 | 3,098 | 9,748 | 126 | 6 | Nil | 143 | 6 | 6 | Nil |
| 1943. | £33,218 | £124 | 3,090 | 9,441 | 129 | 4 | Nil | 148 | 4 | 4 | 1 |
| 1944. | £26,240 | £120 | 3,096 | 9,467 | 145 | 5 | Nil | 159 | 15 | 5 | Nil |
| 1945. | £26,521 | £116 | 3,098 | 9,014 | 126 | 2 | 2 | 142 | 24 | 1 | Nil |
| TOTALS FOR DECADE. | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | 1,392 | 45 | 2 | 1,353 | 73 | 38 | 3 |
| ANNUAL AVERAGE DURING DECADE. 1936 to 1945. | £25,911 | £115 | 3,014 | 9,459 | 139 | 4.5 | 0.2 | 134 | 7.3 | 3.8 | 0.3 |
| 1946. | £26,749 | £116 | 3,111 | 9,065 | 136 | 4 | Nil | 156 | 8 | 4 | Nil |
| 1947. | £28,239 | £126 | 3,163 | 9,121 | 120 | 1 | Nil | 199 | 11 | 4 | 1 |
| 1948. | £28,471 | £129 | 3,244 | 9,364 | 136 | 1 | 1 | 167 | 11 | 6 | Nil |
| 1949. | £30,534 | £161 | 3,301 | 9,410 | 138 | 5 | - | 159 | 7 | 5 | - |

COSFORD AND ENGLAND & WALES. 1936 to 1949.
BIRTH RATES AND DEATH RATES (PER 1000 POPULATION).

The Crude Death Rate of Cosford has constantly exceeded that of England and Wales since 1936. This (as is the Comparability Factor of 0.74) is an indication of an aged population.

The Birth Rate of Cosford, which was below that of England and Wales prior to the outbreak of war, rose steeply during the war (due to the influx of evacuees) and reached its maximum in 1947. In 1948 and 1949 the Cosford Birth Rate, whilst falling steeply, still remained above that of England and Wales.

| | BIRTH RATE. | | DEATH RATE. | |
|-------|-------------|--------|-------------|--------|
| | Cos. | E & W. | Cos. | E & W. |
| 1936. | 15.4 | 14.8 | 13.9 | 12.1 |
| 1937. | 12.2 | 14.7 | 16.3 | 12.4 |
| 1938. | 13.2 | 15.1 | 14.8 | 11.6 |
| 1939. | 14.0 | 15 | 16.4 | 12.1 |
| 1940. | 12.1 | 14.6 | 14.8 | 14.3 |
| 1941. | 13.3 | 14.2 | 14.8 | 12.9 |
| 1942. | 15.3 | 15.8 | 12.9 | 11.6 |
| 1943. | 16.1 | 16.5 | 13.7 | 12.1 |
| 1944. | 18.4 | 17.6 | 15.3 | 11.6 |
| 1945. | 18.4 | 16.1 | 14.0 | 11.4 |
| 1946. | 18.1 | 19.1 | 15.0 | 11.5 |
| 1947. | 23.0 | 20.5 | 13.2 | 12.0 |
| 1948. | 19.0 | 17.9 | 14.7 | 10.8 |
| 1949. | 17.6 | 16.7 | 14.7 | 11.7 |



SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES. The Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge, under the directorship of Dr. R. M. Fry, provide an excellent bacteriological service and an abundance of advice and enthusiasm. This is equally true of the services provided by Dr. P. Martin of the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Ipswich.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES. These services are supplied by the West Suffolk County Council through the agency of the British Red Cross Society.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME. The West Suffolk County Council supply these services.

(d) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES. None are the responsibility of the Local District Council.

(e) HOSPITALS. The hospitals used by Cosford Residents are indicated by the following information with regard to live births and deaths.

Of the 166 total live births to Cosford Residents, only 82 occurred at their own homes. The remaining 84 births took place in the main in hospitals outside the District.

83 of the 138 deaths of Cosford Residents in 1949 occurred at their own homes in Cosford, whilst of the remaining 55 which took place outside the District 49 took place at hospitals as under:-

- 17 Walnuttree Hospital, Sudbury.
- 8 West Suffolk General Hospital.
- 8 East Suffolk & Ipswich Hospital, Ipswich.
- 5 St. Mary's Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds.
- 4 St. Audry's Hospital, Melton.
- 2 St. Leonards Hospital, Sudbury.
- 2 Ipswich Borough General Hospital, Ipswich.
- 1 Sanatorium, Kelling.
- 1 Essex County Hospital, Colchester.
- 1 St. Nicholas Hospital, Woolwich.

Difficulty in obtaining hospital beds for the chronic sick and for cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was evident during the year.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) WATER. Following the approval of the Council's proposed Comprehensive Scheme, work was started in June 1949 upon the duplicate borewell at the Semer site. Orders have been placed for various pipes and fittings and it is hoped that main-laying will be commenced during the latter months of 1950.

Meanwhile the Council's installations both large (as detailed on the following page) and small continue to supply a considerable proportion of the population with water in their homes or within a reasonable distance.

Despite anxiety as to whether some of the installations will wear out before water can be delivered from the Comprehensive Scheme, there were, during 1949, no major breakdowns in any of the pumping stations. A certain amount of difficulty was caused at Lavenham in August owing to the failure of the No.1 bore, but use was made of an agreement which had previously been made with certain private owners to make use of their borewells in case of emergency. A pump was installed in this private bore and coupled up with the existing mains; it was thus possible to continue supplies until repairs were effected in the original bore.

40 samples were taken during 1949 from main supplies: 35 were satisfactory and 5 unsatisfactory.

The presence in the water of iron causes a rusty precipitate to appear, which, although not bacteriologically adverse, greatly diminishes the palatability and attractiveness of the supply.

None of the water supplies have any plumbo-solvent action; some of the water, however, appears to have an aggressive effect on galvanized iron pipe.

The principle works are as follows:-

| <u>Works.</u> | <u>Description.</u> | <u>Gallons per hour Output.</u> | <u>Hours of pumping daily</u> |
|---------------|---|---|-------------------------------|
| Lavenham. | Duplicate bore- wells and pumping machinery. | 2,000 | 20 |
| Bildeston. | Borewell with electricity operating. | 1,600 | 12 |
| Boxford. | - ditto - | 2,000 | 20 |
| Whatfield. | - ditto - | 2,000 | 2 |
| Hitcham. | Borewell and oil engine augmented by electric engine pumping directly into mains. | 500 | 20 |
| Brettenham. | Borewell with pump operated by Diesel engine. | 600 | 8 |
| Lindsey. | Borewell with small petrol engine & pump. | 300 | 1 |
| Kersey. | Borewell on Council house estate with small extension to village. | 600 | 1 |
| Polstead. | - ditto - | 600 | 1 |
| Edwardstone. | - ditto - | 600 | 1 |
| Elmsett. | - ditto - | 600 | 1 |

* The extensions from the Kersey and Polstead bores have been carried out during 1949 and have afforded water in, or close to their houses, for a number of persons who previously had to carry their supplies for a considerable distance.

The following table gives the position in the parishes served by the Council's mains.

| <u>Parish.</u> | <u>Remarks.</u> | <u>Population.</u> | <u>No. of Houses Supplied.</u> | | <u>Approx. No. of persons served</u> | |
|----------------|---|--------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| | | | <u>Into Houses.</u> | <u>Within 200 ft.</u> | <u>In Houses.</u> | <u>Within 200 ft.</u> |
| Bildeston. | All built up proportion of parish. | 618 | 109 | 68 | 320 | 205 |
| Nedging. | Parts of parish only. | 291 | 62 | 31 | 183 | 90 |
| Boxford. | All built up portion. | 633 | 135 | 49 | 410 | 150 |
| Edwardstone. | Small parts of parish only. | 362 | 12 | 7 | 33 | 20 |
| Polstead. | Very small extension from Boxford mains & extension from Council house estate. | 624 | 19 | 18 | 60 | 58 |
| Brettenham. | Main part of parish served. | 321 | 79 | 2 | 244 | 6 |
| Hitcham. | Outlying portions not served. | 644 | 99 | 48 | 310 | 140 |
| Lavenham. | All built up area. | 1,464 | 241 | 277 | 630 | 810 |
| Lindsey. | Very small installation. | 172 | 9 | 8 | 26 | 30 |
| Whatfield. | Major portion of parish. | 241 | 42 | 24 | 132 | 67 |
| Kersey. | Extension from Council house estate. | 360 | 19 | 14 | 28 | 45 |
| | | | 806 | 546 | 2,376 | 1,621 |

As the number of inhabited houses in the District is 3,301, the 806 houses (shown in the table on the previous page) with water into the house represents 24% of all the houses in the District, and the 546 with water laid to within 200 feet of the house represents 17% of all the houses in the District. The figures also indicate that 25% of the total 9,410 population of the District have a piped supply indoors, and a further 17% have water laid to within 200 feet of their house.

Other sources of Supply. In addition to the above public piped supplies in the parishes of Kersey, Kettlebaston, Layham and Preston, are borewells fitted with hand-pumps, whilst the water from the Aldham bore is pumped into a tank at ground level with a tap at the roadside.

By arrangement with the West Suffolk County Council water is supplied in pipes to a small part of the parish of Cockfield, and in the parishes of Edwardstone, Layham, Milden and Thorpe Morieux a small number of persons are served by taps supplied from privately owned sources.

Supplies other than Mains. Inhabitants of the Cosford Area who are not within a reasonable distance of any of the above mentioned supplies draw their water from a variety of sources, including privately owned borewells, privately and publicly owned wells and pumps, springs, rainwater and even ponds. The parishes of Aldham, Preston and Wattisham are particularly badly served, as the majority of the houses are a considerable distance from their source of supply.

41 water samples were taken from supplies other than main supplies and where results so indicated warning notices and advice were given.

Water Carting. The position in the more rural areas was made worse during the year by the prolonged drought, and water carting had to be undertaken on a far larger scale than in previous years. Water was delivered to parts of the eleven parishes of Edwardstone, Groton, Polstead, Kersey, Semer, Lindsey, Chelsworth, Wattisham, Preston, Thorpe Morieux and Cockfield, and in some cases the demand has continued into the winter

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. (a) Major Schemes. Steady progress has been made with the scheme for sewerage the parish of Lavenham. At the end of December 1949 some 40% of the contract had been finished and the work is now virtually completed. A large number of connections have been made to the new sewer with a result that the most unpleasant nuisance caused by the discharge of the old sewer to the ditch at the Common has been alleviated. Some conversions to water closets have taken place and it is hoped that it will soon be possible to effectively reduce the number of earth closets remaining in the parish.

In the two other semi-urban parishes of Bildeston and Boxford conditions continue to be most unsatisfactory. In Boxford a very old and overcrowded sewer discharges directly to the river, whilst in Bildeston every ditch in the built-up portion continues to act as an open sewer. It is anticipated, however, that the Council will soon be authorised to proceed with their schemes for sewerage these two parishes which have already had the Ministry of Health's approval.

(b) Housing Sites. In order to provide modern amenities in their post-war houses, it was necessary for the Council to provide small sewage disposal units at a number of sites. These included Elmsett, Edwardstone, Polstead, Kersey, Whatfield, Hitcham and Brettenham, whilst similar installations are envisaged at Monks Eleigh and Cockfield. In several cases it has been possible to connect pre-war Council houses to the systems - these include Elmsett (6 houses), Polstead (6 houses), Whatfield (8 houses), Brettenham (2 houses) and Edwardstone (4 houses).

2. RIVERS AND STREAMS. Although installation of the Lavenham sewer and works has lessened the pollution of rivers and streams, conditions in the rest of the District, and particularly in the more built-up portions, remained as before or indeed aggravated by the dry summer.

3. (i) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. There are no village sewerage schemes in the District other than that now nearing completion at Lavenham. A very high proportion of the workingclass houses of the District have pail closets - the number of vault closets being small, except in the parish of Boxford where a sewage scheme is contemplated.

A twice weekly collection of night soil was made throughout 1949 in the parishes of Lavenham, Boxford, Bildeston and Kersey, the Council obtaining contracts for this work. It has been decided to terminate these contracts and to carry out the work by direct labour as from 1st April, 1950.

A new Dennis Cesspool Emptier of 800 gallon capacity, with a pail closet attachment has been purchased by the Council to carry out this work and to deal with cesspools within the District. It is anticipated that under direct labour and with the conversions to water closets which will take place in the parish of Lavenham that a night soil collection may be made available to some of the other villages in the District.

(ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING. During 1949 a weekly collection of refuse was made in Lavenham, Bildeston and Boxford and a monthly collection in the rest of the District.

An order was placed for a new vehicle, a Shelvoke and Drewry, 12 cubic yard, for delivery in April, 1950, which may allow a fortnightly collection in the parishes of Hitcham, Brettenham, Layham, Elmsett, Aldham, Monks Eleigh and Brent Eleigh

The work is carried out under Mr. Hine's direction by a driver and loader employed by the Council. The refuse is disposed of by an arrangement with the Melford R.D.C. at a dump just within their boundary.

The amount of refuse collected continues to increase; the proportion of tins, bottles and putrescible matter is larger than in previous years with a corresponding reduction in the amount of cinders and ashes.

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA. In Cosford the offices of the Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector are combined. Mr. Hine, the Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, assisted by Mr. Panks, organises and controls the ever increasing services, among which he carries out with extreme efficiency and complete concord the sanitary inspection work of the area. I am greatly indebted to him for all his assistance. The following table summarises the work carried out during 1949.

| | | | |
|---|----|----|-------|
| Number of visits Public Health and Housing Acts | .. | .. | 1,372 |
| Tents, vans and sheds | .. | .. | 13 |
| Factories | .. | .. | 29 |
| Shops | .. | .. | 35 |
| Cowsheds and Dairies | .. | .. | 20 |
| Butchers Premises | .. | .. | 21 |
| Water Samples | .. | .. | 81 |
| Water Supply | .. | .. | 308 |
| Refuse Collection | .. | .. | 105 |
| Night Soil Collection | .. | .. | 53 |
| After infectious disease | .. | .. | 16 |
| Disinfestation | .. | .. | 10 |
| Food Premises | .. | .. | 19 |
| Bakehouses | .. | .. | 13 |
| Slaughterhouses and meat inspections | .. | .. | 29 |
| Schools | .. | .. | 26 |
| Housing Sites | .. | .. | 120 |
| New Buildings | .. | .. | 95 |
| Housing Management | .. | .. | 758 |
| Requisitioned Properties | .. | .. | 126 |
| New Drainage | .. | .. | 123 |
| Sewerage and sewage disposal | .. | .. | 376 |
| Petroleum | .. | .. | 6 |
| Bye-laws and Planning | .. | .. | 43 |

Factory Act, 1937.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

| Premises. | Number on Register. | Number of | | |
|--|---------------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| | | Inspections. | Written Notices. | Occupiers Prosecuted. |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities. | 27 | 22 | 6 | Nil |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. | 15 | 5 | 1 | Nil |
| (iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) | 2 | 2 | 2 | Nil |
| | 44 | 29 | 9 | Nil |

= i.e. Electrical Stations (Section 103 (1)), Institutions.
(Section 104) and sites of Building Operations and Works of
Engineering Construction (Section 107 and 108).

Cases in which defects were found.

| | Number of cases in which defects were | | | | No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. |
|-----------------------------------|--|-----------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| | Found. | Remedied. | Referred To H.M. Inspector. | By H.M. Inspector. | |
| Want of Cleanliness(S.7) | 4 | 4 | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) | 2 | 2 | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) | | | | | |
| Unsuitable or defective. | 3 | 2 | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| | 9 | 8 | Nil | Nil | Nil |

Part VIII of the Act. OUTWORK. (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work. No. of out-workers in August list
required by Sect.110 (1) (c).

Knitting and Needlework. 3

(iv) SHOPS AND OFFICES. 35 visits were paid to these premises and improvements to washing facilities, closet accommodation and floor were carried out in 4 cases. With the progress of the new public sewer in Lavenham it is hoped that it will soon be possible greatly to improve the facilities for washing and closet accommodation at the shops in this parish.

(v) CAMPING SITES. No regular camping sites exist within the District, but during the year there have been four applications granted to persons to stand caravans on various plots of land. These applications are undoubtedly due to the housing shortage and the caravans may tend to become small permanent dwellings. The maximum number of persons involved during any one day is estimated as 8. Regular visits were made and special attention paid to water supply, drainage, refuse disposal and general cleanliness of the site.

(vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT. The District is free from smoke nuisance.

(vii) SWIMMING BATHS. There are no swimming baths in the District.

(viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS. No cases of bed bug infestation was either reported or discovered.

Five cases of severe infestation of houses by fleas were treated by the Council's staff, using Cooper's Multi-spray.

(ix) RODENT CONTROL. Prior to and during 1949 the Council had not accepted delegation of rodent control powers. The responsibility for this work in the Area remained with the West Suffolk County Council.

(x) SCHOOLS. 26 visits were paid to schools in connection with water supplies, closet accommodation and drainage. A supply of piped water was made available to Kersey School during the year.

The extensions of water supply to be brought about by the Comprehensive Water Scheme and introduction of the contemplated Sewage Schemes into various parishes will allow for improvement in the washing and sanitary facilities at the schools in the District.

SECTION D.
HOUSING.

1. (1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 946
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 1,021
- (2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under Sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925. 45
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 48
- (3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 114
- (4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. 784
2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notice.
Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers. 34
3. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.
 - (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which
 - (a) Demolition Orders were made 3
 - (b) Undertakings accepted not to relet for human habitation. 7
 - (2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 5
4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.
 - (a) (i) Number of dwellinghouses overcrowded at end of the year 2
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein 2
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein 10
 - (b) Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year 3
 - (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 7
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases 37
 - (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority having taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding. Nil

In 1949 the Council completed the building of 52 houses.

At 31st December, 1949, the Council had 44 houses under construction.

The number of houses completed post-war has been:-

| | | | | <u>Council Houses.</u> | <u>Private.</u> |
|------|----|----|----|------------------------|-----------------|
| 1946 | .. | .. | .. | Nil | 3 |
| 1947 | .. | .. | .. | 62 | 10 |
| 1948 | .. | .. | .. | 40 | 7 |
| 1949 | .. | .. | .. | 52 | 10 |
| | | | | <u>154</u> | <u>30</u> |

* includes 30 Prefabricated Houses.

The Council, therefore, owned 396 Council Houses at the end of 1949 and they were situated in the parishes as indicated in the following table:-

| <u>Parish.</u> | <u>Total.</u> | <u>Pre-war.</u> | <u>Post-War.</u> | <u>In course of Construction</u> |
|------------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------------------------|
| Aldham. | 6 | 6 | - | - |
| Brent Eleigh. | 12 | 10 | 2 | - |
| Brettenham. | 8 | 2 | 6 | - |
| Bildeston. | 32 | 24 | 8 | 10 |
| Boxford. | 36 | 20 | 16 | - |
| Cockfield. | 36 | 28 | 8 | 8 |
| Chelsworth. | 2 | 2 | - | - |
| Edwardstone. | 16 | 12 | 4 | 4 |
| Elmsett. | 20 | 10 | 10 | - |
| Groton. | 12 | 12 | - | - |
| Hitcham. | 30 | 12 | 18 | - |
| Kersey. | 10 | 4 | 6 | - |
| Kettlebaston. | - | - | - | - |
| Lavenham. | 72 | 30 | 42 | 14 |
| Layham. | 2 | 2 | - | 4 |
| Lindsey. | 6 | 4 | 2 | - |
| Milden. | 2 | 2 | - | - |
| Monks Eleigh. | 14 | 6 | 8 | - |
| Nedging with Naughton. | 14 | 14 | - | - |
| Polstead. | 22 | 10 | 12 | - |
| Preston. | 6 | 2 | 4 | - |
| Semer. | - | - | - | - |
| Thorpe Morieux. | 6 | 6 | - | 4 |
| Wattisham. | 4 | 4 | - | - |
| Whatfield. | 28 | 20 | 8 | - |
| | 396 | 242 | 154 | 44 |

The maintenance of Council Houses is carried out by direct labour under the direction of Mr. Hine. House painting is carried out in rotation on a five yearly cycle.

SECTION E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY. On 1st October, 1949, the date of the transfer of the Council's duties under the Milk & Dairies Acts and Orders to the Ministry of Agriculture, the number of registered Cowkeepers within the District was 87. Prior to the handing over of these powers 20 visits had been made to cowsheds and dairies.

(b) MEAT & OTHER FOODS. There is no centralised abattoir within the District but privately owned pigs slaughtered were inspected and 3 pigs' heads (Tubercular), 1 pig's liver (Tubercular) and 1 pig's liver (Abscessed) were found. Visits are also paid to butchers shops both regarding cleanliness and the quality of the meat delivered.

A small number of tins of unsound food were condemned during the year.

(c) ADULTERATION.

(d) CHEMICAL & BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

(e) NUTRITION.

(f) SHALL-FISH.

(g) WATER-CRESS.

} No change.

PREVALENCE OF & CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of Infectious Diseases among the civilian population during the year. These are the final numbers after corrections subsequently made either by the Notifying Medical Practitioner or by the Medical Superintendent of the Infectious Disease Hospital.

ALL NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING 1949.

| | Scarlet Fever. | Whooping Cough. | Poliomyelitis. | Measles. | Pneumonia. | Erysipelas. | Food Poisoning | Infective Hepatitis. | Puerperal Pyrexia. |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------|------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Grand | M. F. | M. F. | M. F. | M. F. | M. F. | M. F. | M. F. | M. F. | F. |
| Total: M F | | | | | | | | | |
| 132 64 68 Totals | 5 2 | 17 17 | 1 - | 19 22 | 15 11 | 4 8 | 2 4 | 1 2 | 2 |
| Age 0 to under 1 | - - | 1 1 | - - | - 2 | - - | - - | - - | - - | - |
| 1 " " 3 | - - | 3 6 | - - | 3 - | 1 3 | - - | 1 - | - - | - |
| 3 " " 5 | - - | 2 5 | - - | 8 7 | 1 - | - - | - - | - - | - |
| 5 " " 10 | 3 1 | 11 3 | - - | 7 10 | 1 1 | - 1 | - 1 | - - | - |
| 10 " " 15 | 2 1 | - - | - - | - 1 | 1 - | - - | - - | - 1 | - |
| 15 " " 25 | - - | - 1 | - - | - 1 | - - | 1 - | - - | - - | - |
| 25 " " 45 | - - | - 1 | - - | 1 1 | 2 1 | 2 1 | 1 2 | - - | 2 |
| 45 " " 65 | - - | - - | 1 - | - - | 4 2 | - 3 | - - | 1 - | - |
| 65 & over. | - - | - - | - - | - - | 5 4 | 1 3 | - 1 | - 1 | - |

T U B E R C U L O S I S.NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1949.

During 1949 there were 18 new cases as follows:-

16 Pulmonary: 12 Males. 3,4,9,17,20,20,30,32,43,45,53 & 57 years.
4 Females. 4,5,37, & 50 years.

2 Non-Pulmonary: 1 Male, 52 years.
1 Female, 30 years.

There were four deaths:

3 Pulmonary: Males 21, 58 years.
Female 49 years.

1 Non-Pulmonary: Male 4 years.

47 cases remained on the Register at the end of 1949 (18 Male 13 Female Pulmonary, 12 Male 4 Female, Non-Pulmonary.)

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The Table on the following page gives the number of Notifications of all Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) which have occurred in Thingoe from 1936 to 1949.

It will be observed that only one case of Diphtheria has occurred in the past six years - no case has occurred in an immunised person since December 1940, when immunisation commenced.

Measles and Whooping Cough were made notifiable only from October 1939 - this fact has had consideration in estimating the Average Number of Cases per Year.

A like consideration was given to Infective Hepatitis which has been notified only since December 1943.

COSFORD - 1936 to 1949. NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS).

| | Diphtheria. | Scarlet Fever. | Measles. | Whooping Cough. | Pneumonia. | Erysipelas. | Infective Hepatitis. | Acute Polio-myelitis. | Food Poisoning. | Meningo-coccal meningitis. | Ophthalmia Neonatorum. | Paratyphoid Fevers. | Puerperal Pyrexia. |
|--------------------------|-------------|----------------|----------|-----------------|------------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1936. | 4 | 24 | - | - | Nil | 2 | - | Nil | Nil | Nil | 1 | Nil | Nil |
| 1937. | 3 | 17 | - | - | 10 | Nil | - | 1 | Nil | 1 | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 1938. | 3 | 40 | - | - | 7 | 10 | - | 7 | Nil | Nil | 1 | Nil | Nil |
| 1939. | 7 | 8 | Nil | Nil | 13 | 4 | - | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | 4 |
| 1940. | 7 | 9 | 119 | 6 | 7 | 6 | - | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 1941. | 11 | 19 | 284 | 102 | 9 | 5 | - | Nil | Nil | 1 | 2 | Nil | 3 |
| 1942. | 1 | 5 | 10 | 5 | 2 | 8 | - | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | 1 | 3 |
| 1943. | 2 | 24 | 98 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | 2 |
| 1944. | Nil | 13 | 33 | 54 | 9 | 10 | 59 | Nil | Nil | Nil | 1 | Nil | 3 |
| 1945. | Nil | 6 | 56 | 49 | 4 | 8 | 12 | Nil | Nil | Nil | 2 | Nil | 3 |
| 1946. | Nil | 7 | 117 | 30 | 9 | 13 | 9 | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | 1 |
| 1947. | Nil | 4 | 180 | 4 | 4 | 7 | 16 | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | 5 | 1 |
| 1948. | 1 | Nil | 42 | 101 | 6 | 14 | Nil | Nil | Nil | 3 | Nil | 2 | 1 |
| 1949. | Nil | 7 | 41 | 34 | 26 | 12 | 3 | 1 | 6 | Nil | Nil | Nil | 2 |
| Average Number per year. | 3 | 13 | 98 | 39 | 8 | 7 | 16 | 1 | Nil | Nil | Nil | 1 | 2 |

